



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference
Sponsored by Rotary Clubs of District 6560
March 13 – 15, 2015



TO: *Principal*

FROM: The Rotary Club of Indianapolis

RE: Summary Overview for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

The following information is an overview of the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA Conference) which is being presented to high school students by the Rotary Club of Indianapolis. This summary is intended to assist the high school administration in reviewing and considering approval for an “excused absence” required for one school day (Friday) for the recognized high school students to attend the conference.

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS (RYLA)

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference and planning was developed to demonstrate Rotary International’s commitment, respect, and concern for youth by encouraging, assisting, and training leaders in responsible and effective youth (peer) leadership. Participants will be selected from students, in their sophomore or junior year in high school, who have exhibited leadership abilities in school, church, extracurricular, or community activities. RYLA camp conferences are organized and managed by the Districts of Rotary International. For example, northern Indiana Rotary District 6560 is providing its 28th RYLA event for the high school students. Information about Rotary International and the RYLA can be found at www.rotary.org.

OVERVIEW OF RYLA 2015, sponsored by central Indiana Rotary District 6560

Location is scheduled at Camp Tecumseh near Brookston, Indiana, March 13 – 15, 2015.

In 2013, the RYLA included 73 high school students from over 25 sponsoring Rotary Clubs in central Indiana. The event included professional counselors, a 3 day intense structured program; breakout sessions, and speakers. Perhaps one of the most beneficial aspects of the event is the opportunity for the students to meet and learn from each other in a conference setting of students from all over Indiana.

Additional Information:

- Topics focus on decision-making, ethics, critical thinking, communicating effectively, team building, public service, contemporary problems, and career development.
- Camp features many challenging activities including workshops, speakers, discussions, sports, and music.



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- The outdoor activities include a multitude of simulations, called initiatives, each designed to help students learn about leadership.
- Participants are under the guidance of professional counselors and educators.
- Programs are conducted by highly trained, experienced leaders representing a wide-range of vocations.
- This program has been approved by the Division of Student Activities, Indiana Secondary School Administration as "instructional time."
- A typical day includes breakfast, two morning sessions, lunch, two afternoon sessions, dinner, and leadership skits. A voluntary chapel service will be held on Sunday.
- The participants are driven to camp as no cars are allowed. Transportation is by Rotary Club of Indianapolis.
- Use of cell phones and iPods, etc. are prohibited. Housing is a modern lodge with restroom and shower facilities. A counselor will be supervising the group (9 to 1 ratio).

Contact Information:

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